

The Leesburg Tree Commission met in regular session on Monday October 18, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room, 25 West market Street, Leesburg, VA. Members present were: Mr. John Groothuis, Ms. Anne Wall, Mr. Jim Hicks, Mr. Earl Hower and Mr. R. Max Peterson. Staff was represented by Mr. Jay S. Banks and Susan DeJong.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the September 20th, 1999 were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Groothuis asked about the Dogwood Ball Project. Mr. Banks stated that the Town Council endorsed the project and the Council was made aware of possible expenditures that may occur after the 1 year warranty runs out.

Mr. Banks referred to his memo to the Tree Commission regarding the proposed site for the Arboretum, which states that drainage and parking problems were a big concern. The Tree Commission discussed several options and agreed to study the Arboretum project further.

Mr. Banks went on to say that the tree inventory started on October 4th, and he is hoping to have this project completed by the first of November.

Mr. Hicks asked that a reminder be sent out with the Commissioners packet next month to remind the Arbor Day and Flower & Garden Show subcommittee volunteers to meet 15 minutes before the regularly scheduled Tree Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Banks mentioned that the Commission Members should be aware of the fact that it was time to discuss their upcoming budget, and that it should be on the Director's desk sometime in early December. Ms. Wall asked if it would be possible to have a copy of last years budget in with their packet next month.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mr. Groothuis stated that Mr. Michael Tompkins and Mr. Gus Glikas attended the Tri-Commission meeting. Mr. Groothuis then gave a brief summary of what went on at the meeting.

Mr. Hicks would like the Tri-Commission to come up with a new name. People are thinking that this is a new commission rather than just a meeting of three already existing Commissions.

Mr. Hicks went to the EAC meeting on the 27th of September. He said that there would be a presentation for the environmental award given to the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, for the Riparian Project. Mr. Hicks stated that Councilman McDonald said a number of times that if there ever was a possibility to support a merger of the EAC and the Tree Commission, he would.

Mr. Hower received a call from a resident of Wildman Street asking about the Exeter Hills project. The resident had questions about a cleared site that she thought might have been a "Tree Save Area".

Mr. Peterson wondered if a Scout Troop might take on the project of removing the guy wires from trees. Mr. Peterson was amazed at the number of trees on Homeowner Association's property around the Town that are girdled.

Mr. Peterson was also concerned with the Kousa dogwood planting project. His concern is that the trees might get hit with some sort of blight and die. He would rather have seen a variety of trees planted.

ARBORIST COMMENTS

The Catoctin Street widening project was revisited and Mr. Banks stated additional trees would be planted as a part of that project. So there will be a positive number of trees when the project is finished.

There being no further business the Tree Commission adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Town Arborist

Susan C, DeJong, Recording Secretary